

PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION AND
JUDICIAL LIMITATION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Partial birth Abortion and Judicial Limitation Act. This bill would, in accordance with article 3, section 2 of our United States Constitution, prohibit federal courts (exclusive of the U.S. Supreme Court) from hearing cases relative to partial birth abortion.

One of the most egregious portions of the Roe versus Wade decision is that the ruling in that case served to substitute the opinions of unelected judges for those of state representatives when it comes to making abortion law. By doing this, judges have not merely taken on the role of legislators, they have also thrust the federal apparatus into an area that the founding fathers specifically and exclusively entrusted to state entities. Unfortunately, this aspect of Roe versus Wade has not received the attention that less critical portions of the decision have received.

The legislation I am introducing today is aimed at moving us toward correcting this federal judicial usurpation of constitutionally identified state authority. This legislation is needed now more than ever as certain "lower federal courts" have taken it upon themselves to continue the error-ridden ways of Roe versus Wade by overturning legitimate state restrictions on partial birth abortion.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to review this new legislation and to join me in this battle by cosponsoring this pro-life legislation.

HOME HEATING OIL CRISIS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the northeast States are experiencing—and suffering from—escalating home heating oil prices. I have heard from numerous constituents, including the Fuel Merchants Association of New Jersey, small fuel oil dealers, the New Jersey Motor Truck Association, and oilheat consumers affected by this crisis. I commend the administration for releasing \$175 million in emergency LIHEAP funds to date and for working with northeast Congressmembers on this issue. I had written to President Clinton after he released an initial \$45 million in emergency funds, urging him to release additional funds, and I was pleased to learn that an additional \$130 million were subsequently released.

I also have urged the administration to press OPEC and our major foreign suppliers to increase their production of both crude oil and home heating oil exported to the United States in order to address this problem. In addition, I asked that the administration conduct an immediate investigation of alleged price gouging by the oil industry, or at least, that the

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

administration investigate whether or not there was some deliberate attempt by the oil industry to join forces and illegally jack up prices. I also asked the administration to convene an emergency meeting as soon as possible with the major integrated oil companies and with other refiners in order to encourage an immediate increase in refining utilization to produce additional supplies of home heating oil. I understand that crude oil production is down and that there has been a 22-percent reduction in the stocks of distillate fuel oil from last year.

But, more must be done. To this end, I also am organizing, along with my colleague, Representative FOSSELLA, a bipartisan educational briefing, which is being held this Thursday at 3:30 in room HC-8 of the Capitol for Members and staff. The briefing will enable us to discuss longer-term options to prevent these types of crises in the future and methods for creating greater market certainty.

As the cold weather continues, we must act immediately to combat this crisis facing many American families.

HONORING STEPHAN L. HONORÉ

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Stephan L. Honoré for being awarded the Peace Corps' Franklin Williams Award for Outstanding Community Service. Mr. Honoré, who was among the first wave of Peace Corps volunteers and the first black American to join the Peace Corps, has distinguished himself as an extraordinary role model for minorities and all young people interested in community service.

After hearing President John F. Kennedy's impassioned vision of young Americans giving service for peace, Mr. Honoré answered the call in 1960 by joining the "Peace Corps Council," a student group at Ohio State University. As president of his student body, Mr. Honoré had already been given the chance to travel to Cuba as a student where he was forever transformed by witnessing the conditions that his brethren from other countries had to endure daily. Instead of going to Florida during Spring Break as a student his senior year, Mr. Honoré helped organize a trip to Washington with the Peace Corps Council where he met with numerous foreign embassies to see what they thought of JFK's vision. He then met with most of the Ohio Congressmen and Senators to lobby on behalf of the Peace Corps.

Mr. Honoré's generous spirit and political awakening compelled him to become one of the first wave of 28 trainees-invees—and the first black American—to work as a Peace Corps volunteer. In 1961 he traveled to Columbia to offer his services in Rural Community Development. Mr. Honoré's goal was to help improve living conditions of those living in poverty and hunger and to teach troubled communities how to become self-sufficient. At the same time, Mr. Honoré learned much about his own African heritage through working with black Colombians who were descended from escaped slaves.

After a two-year stint in Colombia, Mr. Honoré was promoted to Associate Director of

the Peace Corps and stationed in the Dominican Republic. He oversaw all Peace Corps volunteers in the Northeast quarter of the Dominican Republic and put his skills to use running vital programs.

Mr. Honoré's desire to help others continued when he returned to Ohio from 1968 to 1971 to run a community Health Demonstration Projected and Model Cities Program in blighted communities. He again left for the Dominican Republic to serve as the country's Director from 1978 to 1981. He still keeps close ties to his former co-workers, and is currently Secretary of Friends of the Dominican Republic, an organization of retired Peace Corps members who served in the Dominican Republic.

In between stints of community service, Mr. Honoré earned a law degree and held a professorship at Texas Southern University from 1974–1984. I am proud to claim him as a constituent living in my 25th Congressional District of Texas. True to his philosophy, he is active in our Houston community, serving as past president of the Diocesan Board of Education and the Woodshire Civic Club, and as organizer of Anti-Apartheid activities in the 1980s, as well as a Precinct Judge. He continues to help people who are caught in the system by representing clients in immigration and political asylum cases, often on a pro bono basis. He recently started his own business as a foreign currency exchange consultant.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Stephen L. Honoré for receiving an award from the Peace Corps for outstanding service to his community and to Houston. He has not only improved the lives of countless people through his service in foreign lands, the positive impact he has had on the lives of youths in this country and in Houston is immeasurable. He is a true role model for all young people who want to engage in public service.

TRIBUTE TO JEAN G. LEON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to Ms. Jean C. Leon.

Jean is recognized in the New York health community for her strong administrative skills. During the 1990's, she held numerous outstanding positions within the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC). She began her tenure with HHC as Assistant Director of Nursing at Woodhull Hospital and Mental Health Center. She then joined Metropolitan Hospital Center as Director of Quality Management. Jean later served as the Deputy Executive Director for AED Quality Management Services. Prior to her current position as the Executive Director of Kings County Hospital Center and Senior Vice President of South Brooklyn—Staten Island Family Health Network, Jean worked as the Chief Operating Officer at Harlem Hospital Center. She has dedicated herself to improving patient care at member facilities and ensuring greater access to health care for the residents of both Brooklyn and Staten Island.

She received her undergraduate degree in health administration from St. Joseph's College and an MPA from New York University's